

REMARKS

The application has been amended to correct minor informalities so as to place the application, as a whole, into a prima facie condition for allowance. Great care has been taken to avoid the introduction of new subject matter into the application as the result of the foregoing modifications.

In the Office Action dated April 26, 2005, the Examiner restricted the instant application to the invention of Claims 1-16, and the invention of Claims 17-20. Applicant respectfully elects the invention of Claims 1-16.

The Examiner also stated that the application contained claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I. The buffering means is a fluid bluffer;

Species II. The buffering means is a linear actuator;

Species III. The buffering means is a hydraulic cylinder;

Species IV. The buffering means is a supplemental hydraulic cylinder.

The Examiner has stated that Claims 1, 6-9 and 12-20 are generic. Applicant respectfully elects Species II (the buffering means is a linear actuator) for prosecution on the merits. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 3, 6-9 and 12-20 are claims all readable upon the elected species.

Based on the foregoing, as Applicant has complied with the restriction requirement and election of species, and all of the requirements the Examiner outlined in the Office Action, Applicant respectfully requests prosecution on the merits for the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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